

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 AID-05 OPR-02 OES-06

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINA, SHUM, PE, ELAB

SUBJECT: FISHERMEN'S STRIKE

REF: LIMA 9913

1. GEENERALLY UPBEAT PRESS TREATMENT OF THE FISHERMEN'S STRIKE CONTINUES. GOP-CONTROLLED PAPERS REPORTED THAT THE NUMBERS OF ANCHOVY FISHERMEN AT WORK ALL ALONG THE COAST INCREASED CONSIDERABLY OVER THE LONG WEEKEND, EVEN THOUGH MONDAY WAS A LOCAL HOLIDAY. ONE REPORT PUT THE NUMBER OF FISHERMEN BACK AT WORK AT 5000, OF THE 9000 WHO WENT OUT ON STRIKE EARLIER. AUTHORITIES PROVIDED POLICE PROTECTION AND EVEN TRANSPORTATION FOR THOSE WHO PUT OUT TO SEA OVER THE WEEKEND.

THE PRESS HAS FOCUSED ON THE ALLEGED ABUNDANCE OF ANCHOVY OFF THE PERUVIAN COAST AND THE FULL CATCHES THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN BY WORKING FISHERMEN.

2. THE INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY OF THE STATE FISHING MONOPOLY, PESCA-PEERU, AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FISHERMEN

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HAVE BOTH PUBLICLY CALLED ON THE GOVERNMENT TO EX-

TEND THE OCTOBER 28 DEADLINE FOR STRIKING FISHERMEN TO SIGN-UP FOR REEMPLOYMENT, AND OFFERED TO MAN THE FISHING BOATS IIF NECESSARY TO PREVENT FURTHER DAMAGE TO THE NATIONAL EECONOMY. THE KEY ISSUES CONTINUE TO BE THE CREATION OF A COMPENSATION FUND TO SUPPORT INDEPENDENT FISSHERMEN DURINNG THE SEASON WHEN ANCHOVY FISHING IS PROHIBITED, AND THE QUESTION OF LABOR STABILITY IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY. THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED PRESS HAS HINTED AT SOME FLEXIBILITY CONCERNING THESE ISSUES.

3. PROBLEMS PERSIST, HOWEVER, AS EVIDENCED BY THE IMPOSITION OF A 10 PM CURFEW IN FOUR NORTHERN PORTS, INCLUDING HUACHO, WHERE DISTURBANCES INVOLVING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ALLEGEDLY TOOK PLACE OVER THE WEEEEKEND. CURFEW IS STILL IN EFFECT IN CHIMBOTEE ALSO.

4. COMMENT: THE GOP'S USE OF A FIRM HAND IN DEALING WITH THE STRIKING FISHERMEN MAY BE BEGINNING TO SHOW SIGNS OF EFFECTIVENESS. HOWEVER, THE GOP WILL NEED TO AVOID ANY MISHANDLING OF STRICT SECURITY MEASURES, EYMPATHY STRIKES, OR STRIKES IN OTHER AREAS THAT COULD LEND SUPPORT TO THE FISHERMEN. DEAN

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